

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of California Water Service Company (U 60 W) for an Order Authorizing it to increase Rates for Water Service in its Palos Verdes District.	Application 03-01-034 (Filed January 31, 2003)
Application of California Water Service Company (U 60 W) for an Order Authorizing it to Increase Rates for Water Service in its Oroville District.	Application 03-01-035 (Filed January 31, 2003)
Application of California Water Service Company (U 60 W) for an Order Authorizing it to Increase Rates for Water Service in its Selma District.	Application 03-01-036 (Filed January 31, 2003)
Application of California Water Service Company (U 60 W) for an Order Authorizing it to Increase Rates for Water Service in its Dominguez District.	Application 03-01-037 (Filed January 31, 2003)

**REPLY COMMENTS  
OF THE OFFICE OF RATEPAYER ADVOCATES**

In its comments on the proposed decision of Administrative Law Judge Thorson, California Water Service Company (CWS) asks that the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) make the rates that will be adopted in this proceeding effective as of January 1, 2004. CWS' request must be denied as it would violate the prohibition against retroactive ratemaking. There is no

memorandum account or other mechanism in effect to permit making rates effective prior to the effective date of this decision.

The Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) reminds CWS, however, that the Commission has authorized CWS' interim rates that have been in effect since October 30, 2003.

Because CWS' proposed modifications to the proposed decision violate the prohibition against retroactive ratemaking, they must be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

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April 7, 2004

